



SoLiS

Newsletter of the
Southeast Library System

SOWINGS

November 2013

As I was travelling this month to many of the libraries the Southeast Library System serves, I was struck by the beauty of the landscapes I saw along the road. Autumn was in full swing with some magnificent reds, oranges, golds, and browns on the trees, punctuated by the greens of evergreens here and there. The leaves were just beginning to fall and it really was an experience. It reminded me that change can bring beautiful things, and the promise of better things to come if you get through the rougher first stages of that change.

Autumn brings changes of all types to libraries, if you know where to look. Some are obvious like changes in hours, or the types of displays. Others are a bit more subtle, like the appearance of space heaters and a bucket of ice-melt by the door. You see more coats and jackets hanging on the backs of chairs each day. Planning has starting for Summer Reading programs in public libraries. School & academic librarians are serving students working on mid-term projects. More patrons are interested in services they can access from home, like ebooks, as bad weather becomes more likely.

One thing I love about this time of year, besides the fact it is the middle of the football season, is that it is conference time. I love going to the annual Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska School Librarians Association and this year's conference in Kearney was no different. Seeing colleagues from across the state, catching up with their stories and learning new ideas from some really great librarians is such a boost, right when things start looking dreary. This year had a great keynote speaker, Stephanie Vance, who talked about how put your message in a form that people can hear. Great advice for not just working with political figures, but with anybody you have a request for. There were lots of good break-out sessions as well.

If things look gloomy, keep on keeping on and remember the adage often used in small talk around Nebraska, "Don't like the weather? Wait five minutes and it might be better for you." Get through this tough part and sunshine and wildflowers will be back before you know it.

Scott Childers, Executive Director

Southeast Library System

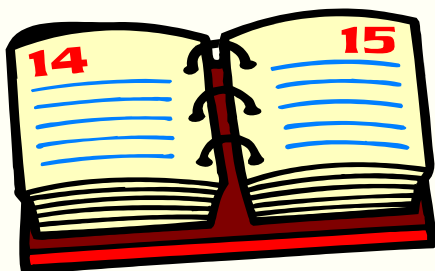
Photo of the Month



*William Bragg,
Assistant for the
Southeast Library
System, ducks
beneath the SELS
Friends booth at
the NLA/ NSLA
conference to
prepare for the One
Book, Many
Librarians program.*

**Check out
Southeast
Library System
on Facebook!**





CALENDAR

November 2013

November 11th—Veteran's Day, SELS Office Closed.

November 12th—E-rate Training in Omaha. More info can be found on [NLC's event calendar](#).

November 14th—CASTL Meeting at **Seward Memorial Library**. Note the location change.

November 21st—E-rate Training in Lincoln at the Nebraska Library Commission. Register by Nov. 20. More info can be found on [NLC's event calendar](#).

November 23rd— SELS Friends Private Movie Showing of *Catching Fire* and a Barnes and Noble book fair. See Page [9](#).

November 28 and 29— SELS Office Closed.

December 5th— SELS Board Meeting at Seward Memorial Library. All are welcome!

December 13th— CASTL Meeting at Webermeier Memorial Library in Milford.

December 14th— SELS Friends Private Movie Showing of *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*. See Page [9](#).

December 24 and 25— SELS Office Closed.

January 1st— SELS Office Closed.

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{NEWS AROUND THE SYSTEM}

CASTL meetings are open to librarians of all types, library trustees, and library friends or supporters. The meetings typically start at 10:00 a.m., and wrap up by 3:00 or 3:30. Each meeting has a dedicated topic of focus, as well as a round robin for discussion and sharing of current issues, topics and library happenings. Attendees earn continuing education hours and you are welcome to join us for all or even part of the day.

- December 13th — Webermeier Memorial Library (Milford)
- January 10th — Greenwood Public Library
- February 13th—Wymore Public Library
- March 13th—Exeter Public Library

Concordia Book Sale

Philip Hendrickson,
Director of Library
Services Concordia
University Nebraska

It's book sale time at Concordia University in Seward! Link Library's Fall book sale will be Friday, November 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Most books cost a dollar or less. Our last sale was Spring of 2012, and now we have about 1,500 donated or withdrawn books in religion, history, and much

more. It's a great time to find bargains and support Concordia. See you there!

Link Library is at the north end of Concordia's main crescent driveway. For more information call 402-643-7254.

How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin?



By Glenda Willnerd, Palmyra Memorial Library

Just ask these children that attended the Palmyra Memorial Library Story Time. Children listened to the book – *How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin* by Margaret McNamara and G. Brian Karas and then scooped up the pumpkin seeds from two pumpkins and began to count them. They learned that the darker orange the pumpkin, the longer it has been on the vine and the more lines it has, the more seeds it is likely to have. Of course later - they all devoured pumpkin decorated sugar cookies after playing pin the nose on the pumpkin.



Waverly receives Award

On Sunday, October 6th, Waverly Community Library receive a "Service to Youth" award from the Waverly Kiwanis. The award was presented at the Kiwanis Annual banquet.

An article on the award and the other awards presented by the Kiwanis maybe found here: www.wahoo-ashland-waverly.com

Jeff Kurrus visits Seward

By Emily Hemphill, Seward Memorial Library

"Your imagination is what a book is," said Jeff Kurrus, author of "Have You Seen Mary?"

Kurrus is the editor of NEBRASKAland Magazine, where he works with photos and stories of animals and nature in Nebraska.

He spoke Oct. 20 to an audience of 40 people at the Seward Memorial Library. His talk was the first event held

in the library's new conference center.

His children's book tells the story of John and Mary, two Sandhill cranes who are separated during the yearly crane migration.

Kurrus researched the cranes, drafted the text of the story and began searching through thousands of crane photographs. The book is illustrated with photos taken by Michael Forsberg, a NEBRASKAland photographer.

The goal of "Have You Seen Mary?" was to offer a captivating and accurate learning experience for children and people of all ages. The book is a finalist for the 2013-14 Golden Sower award for excellence in writing and illustration.

Kurrus also is working on three new children's book projects, one of which will debut next fall.



Students Utilizing Transformers to Build a "Library without Walls"

By Kim McCain, TriCounty Schools

With our efforts of going 1- to-1 where every student has a Transformer tablet, the library resources have become more accessible! Training was held for each 7-12 grade student during their study hall to learn how to set up the online public access catalog (OPAC) app. We use Follett and their app is Destiny Quest. Each student can see what books are available to check out for leisure reading or research. Once the app is installed on the student's device, the students can

also see if they have late materials and fines. They can also put books on hold with a click of a button.

The other part of the session allowed students to see how they can download ebooks on their transformers. With over 100 books in our ebook collection, students have another way to use their transformers. We are using ebooks through Baker and Taylor. We will continue to look for other ways to integrate technology into our program!

Digital Inclusion Survey

John Felton, Planning and Data Services Coordinator
Nebraska Library Commission

Again, I'd like to strongly encourage all of you to participate in the *Digital Inclusion Survey*, which is available through November 15, 2013. At this point Nebraska has a 52% participation rate, but we need at least 60% in order to get enough state-level data.

The survey will generate unique and valuable data in the areas of digital literacy, economic and workforce development, civic engagement, and public access to the internet. I really think this survey will be a great new statewide tool if enough of us participate. **If you complete this survey, the administrators have said they will be able to pre-load all overlapping data into the EDGE Initiative when it goes live next year!**

What's the benefit to you?

The great [interactive tools](#) built by the Digital Inclusion team will help you get a better sense of your community's needs, challenges, and opportunities and be able to demonstrate how your library's services add value to your community.

- Results will help you communicate with decision makers about the value of your library's technology-enabled services and public access technologies to different communities and

Articulate how your library helps [build a digitally inclusive community](#), supporting 21st century workforce development, digital literacy, education, and a healthy community.

The survey will help you identify where your library's services and resources are meeting community needs and where there might be room for improvement or a need for new partners to extend the library's reach.

Please complete the survey by **November 15, 2013**.

How do I participate?

Go to <http://digitalinclusion.umd.edu/> and follow the "Complete the Survey" button. You will need to know your library's federal code to log-in, which is your FSCS ID.

Can you see the survey questions before answering them?

Yes, you can access a PDF version of the survey sections on the survey project [website](#). Please note that the print and Web surveys are slightly different (not in terms of the questions, but in terms of layout and presentation).

Can you save your answers and finish the survey later?

Yes, you can save your answers at any time by clicking the 'stop and resume later' button at the bottom of each survey question page. To get back into the survey later, use your ID to login, find your library and click the button that says 'resume' or 'completed.' You can also print a copy of the completed survey for your records.

How long will it take to complete the survey?

Test estimates ranged from 20 minutes to 40 minutes.

The *Digital Inclusion Survey* is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and conducted by the American Library Association and the Information Policy & Access Center at the University of Maryland College Park, in partnership with the International City/County Management Association.

Thanks, -John-

Big Talk for Small Libraries

By Christa Burns, Special Projects Librarian
Nebraska Library Commission

The Call for Speakers for Big Talk From Small Libraries is now open! This free one-day online conference is aimed at librarians from small libraries; the smaller the better. Small libraries of all types - public, academic, school, museum, special, etc. - are encouraged to submit a proposal.

Do you offer a service or program at your small library that other librarians might like to hear about? Have you implemented a new (or old) technology, hosted an event, partnered with others in your community, or just done something really cool? The Big Talk From Small Libraries online conference gives you the opportunity to share what you've done, while learning what your colleagues in other small libraries are doing. Here are some possible topics to get you thinking:

- Unique Libraries
- Special Collections
- New buildings
- Fundraising
- Improved Workflows

- Staff Development
- Advocacy Efforts
- Community Partnerships
- That great thing you're doing at your library!

For Big Talk From Small Libraries 2014, we're looking for seven 50-minute presentations and five 10-minute "lightning round" presentations.

Big Talk From Small Libraries 2014 will be held on Friday, February 28, 2014 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (CT) via the GoToWebinar online meeting service. Speakers will be able to present their programs from their own desktops. The schedule will accommodate speakers' time-zones.

If you are interested in presenting, please submit your proposal via the online form at <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk/call-for-speakers/> by Friday, January 10, 2014. Speakers from libraries serving fewer than 10,000 people will be preferred, but presentations from libraries with larger service populations will be considered.

More details about the conference can be found @ <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk>

NLA/NSLA Conference Wrap-Up

By Scott Childers, SELS

October 9 – 11 was the annual Nebraska Library Association/Nebraska School Librarians Association conference. This year's conference was held in the new Younes Center in Kearney, and it was a great one.

There was a wide variety of topics presented: children's programming, lobbying your agenda with elected officials, book discussions, notable book selections for all-ages, technology, leadership and so much more. Librarianship really is a wide a varied profession and the conference reflects that.

There was a strong representation from SELS there, not just with Scott & William and the One Book, Many Librarians program, but the many of the presenters came from the SELS area, and we can't forget the SELS Friends Hospitality Suite!

The six Regional Library Systems brought in Theresa Dickson for a pre-conference to talk on how to break down some barriers in the effort provide better customer service. This session covered a lot of ground. The group examined some of the built in biases we may have based on assumptions about age, gender, and appearances. How you say things, what you say, and what your do with your body language when you say it were all examined during the program.

Plans are already underway for next year's conference in South Sioux City on October 7 - 9. This will be a new experience at a new site, but is should be a great conference.

AMONG TREASURED FRIENDS

November 2013

The SELS Friends had a stellar NLA/NSLA conference this year. Highlights from NLA conference include:

Marci Retzlaff winning the Kindle Paperwhite raffle

Janet Greser and Karen Frank winning floral bouquets that were runner-up raffle prizes donated by Biblionix

Laureen Riedesel and Betty Meyer each winning a collectible doll (donated by Tom Schmitz) in the silent auctions

Selling many bags of Baker's chocolates

Helping to man the Biblionix table which was next to ours was done for a \$500 donation, but they actually donated \$600! Meeting Cameron Charbonnet was a bonus!

Hosting a hospitality room that was well attended, especially Thursday night.

Special thanks for donations go to Dorothy Willis, Ruth Carlock, Brenda Ealey, Becky Pasco, Lisa Olivigni, Tom Schmitz, Becky Baker and many others for all of their support.

Upcoming events:

Private movie showing of *Catching Fire* on Nov. 23 – see page [9](#) for details

Barnes & Noble book fair on Nov. 23, free gift wrapping that afternoon – see page [8](#) for details. All purchases at the store that day count – even at the coffee shop!

Private movie showing of *The Desolation of Smaug* on Dec. 14 – see page [9](#) for details.

Sign up to attend these movies right away – previews look great, and there will be door prizes!



**SAVE
THE DATE**

SELS Friends
Barnes & Noble
Bookfair

Saturday, November 23
Barnes & Noble SouthPointe
Lincoln, NE

Shop all day to help the Southeast Library System!

Coffee shop purchases also count!

Free gift wrapping from 1-4 p.m.

Can't attend our bookfair at Barnes & Noble?

Visit **BN.COM/bookfairs** to support us online from 11/23/13 to 11/28/13
by entering Bookfair ID 11213444 at checkout.

A percentage of your Barnes & Noble purchases will benefit the Southeast Library System!



Private Movie Showing

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE

Where: Edgewood Theater, Lincoln, NE

When: Saturday, Nov. 23, 9:30 a.m.
(doors open at 9:00)

Who: SELS Friends & guests

Reserve your seat by Wed., Nov. 20 and SAVE!

Reservations: \$8.00 for SELS Friends members
\$10.00 for Non-members

Price after Nov. 20: \$12.00 for everyone

All admissions will be paid for at the door.

To reserve a seat in advance, email info@selsfriends.org

Visit www.selsfriends.org for information about the SELS Friends.

SELS



A Fundraiser for the
Southeast Library System Friends

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

9:00 a.m. (doors open at 8:30)

THE HOBBIT THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG

Reserve your seat by Dec. 11 and SAVE!

Edgewood Theater
5220 South 56th Street
Lincoln, NE

\$8.00 for SELS Friends members
\$10.00 for Non-members

Price after Dec. 11: \$12.00 for everyone

All admissions will be paid for at the door.
To reserve a seat in advance, email info@selsfriends.org

2014 One Book, One Nebraska Announced



Once Upon a Town by Bob Greene is Nebraska's reading choice for the **2014 One Book One Nebraska** statewide reading program. In this nonfiction story, bestselling author and award-winning journalist Bob Greene goes out in search of "the best America there ever was," and finds it in a small Nebraska town few people pass through today—a town where Greene discovers the echoes of a love story between a country and its sons. During World War II, American soldiers from every city and walk of life rolled through North Platte, NE, on troop trains en route to their ultimate destinations in Europe and the Pacific. This small town, wanting to offer the servicemen warmth and support, transformed its modest railroad depot into the North Platte Canteen. Every day of the year, every day of the war, the Canteen—staffed and funded entirely by local volunteers—was open from five a.m. until the last troop train of the day pulled away after midnight. *Once Upon a Town* tells the story of how this plains community of only 12,000 people provided welcoming words, friendship, and baskets of food and treats to more than six million GIs by the time the war ended.

The One Book One Nebraska reading program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, is entering its tenth year. It encourages Nebraskans across the state to read and discuss one book, chosen from books written by Nebraska authors or that have a Nebraska theme or setting. A committee of the Nebraska Center for the Book selected this book from a list of 71 titles nominated by 141 Nebraskans from across the state. The Nebraska Center for the Book board announced the choice for the 2014 One Book One Nebraska at the Celebration of Nebraska Books on October 26 in Lincoln.

Libraries across Nebraska will join other literary and cultural organizations in planning book discussions, activities, and events that will encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this book. Support materials to assist with local reading/discussion activities will be available after January 1, 2014 at <http://onebook.nebraska.gov>. Updates and activity listings will be posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/onebookonenebraska>.

One Book One Nebraska is sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, Nebraska Library Association, and Nebraska Library Commission. The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission and brings together the state's readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word.

As the state library agency, the Nebraska Library Commission is an advocate for the library and information needs of all Nebraskans. The mission of the Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services, bringing together people and information. For more information, contact [Mary Jo Ryan](mailto:MaryJo.Ryan@nlc.nebraska.gov), 402-471-3434 or 800-307-2665, www.centerforthebook.nebraska.gov or <http://www.facebook.com/NebraskaCenterfortheBook>

The most up-to-date news releases from the Nebraska Library Commission are always available on the Library Commission website, www.nlc.nebraska.gov/publications/newsreleases

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[Mary Jo Ryan](mailto:MaryJo.Ryan@nlc.nebraska.gov)
[402-471-3434](tel:4024713434)
[800-307-2665](tel:8003072665)

The History of African Americans in Nebraska

www.gpblackmuseum.org

The Great Plains Black History Museum is proud to announce the publication of *The History of African Americans in Nebraska*.

This stunning 8.5" x 11" limited-edition volume will contain 160 four-color pages of fascinating text with approximately 325 historical and current photographs that depict the heritage of African Americans in Nebraska.

This book will act as a tool to educate all people especially youth in Omaha and throughout Nebraska about the treasured history of African Americans and inspire all to follow great leaders from the past, authored by Patrick D. Jones Ph.D. and Jared Leighton.

Don't miss your opportunity to become part of this historic endeavor. **MUST ORDER BY DECEMBER 30, 2013**

PRE-ORDER YOUR COPIES NOW!

Pre-Order your copies for \$40.00* each

Order 25-100 books:

Receive recognition on the sponsor pages in 3000 copies of the book

Order 101-250 books:

Receive recognition on the sponsor pages in 3000 copies of the book

Recognition on the museum's website

Order 251+ books :

and receive all of the above plus (2) tickets to the book launch celebration

*Regular retail cost will be \$45.00 after book publication February 1, 2014



Support the Great Plains Black History Museum

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Attn: Terri Sanders, V.P. Marketing & Development
105 North 31st Avenue, Suite 219
Omaha, NE 68131

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terrisanders@gpblackmuseum.org

Southeast Library System

Serving libraries in the counties
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SoLiS is a publication of the Southeast Library System, and is issued once monthly. We reserve the right to screen and to edit all contributions.

November 2013

*"It ain't whatcha write,
it's the way atcha write it."*

—Jack Kerouac

Southeast Library System is a multi-type library network with 248 members offering a wide range of service in public, school, academic, institutional and private libraries (Membership list with populations from 2000 Census are on the SELS web page: www.selsne.org.) Membership includes 12 academic institutions, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, four private colleges, three community college campuses, a state college and a technical school. Fifty-four public libraries are system members. The majority of these libraries (34) serve populations fewer than 1,000. The system counts 146 school media centers among its members, 54 that are Lincoln Public Schools, with most of those belonging to Class 3 schools (population areas between 1,000 and 100,000). Fourteen of the school media centers are parochial. The system has 28 special and institutional members, most of which are located in Lancaster County.